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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Map of Opole, with Inset Map showing Opole in
Relation to the Surrounding Area

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

25X1A

DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO.) 21 Jan 54 & Earlier

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DAS NO.	
OCI NO.	

DATE DISTR. 22 APR 1954

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1. "Part of the following information dates up to 21 Jan 54:

Background on Opole

2. "Opole, which has become a county capital, was before World War II the seat of the provincial administration board. It was very badly damaged during the war and has been rapidly reconstructed during the last year [1953].

Population

3. "At present, there are approximately 55,000 inhabitants in Opole, as compared to approximately 50,000 inhabitants in 1949. As certain parts of the town have not been completely rebuilt, quite a number of its former population now live in the suburban areas.
4. "Of the present population, only about 1000 to 2000 people were there before the war. The remainder have been resettled from other areas, almost exclusively from the forced areas now under Soviet occupation.

Industrial Role

5. "Opole is located at quite some distance from the coal basin. From an industrial point of view, however, it is the center of cement production. During World War II, a fourth cement factory was added to the three already in existence. The new cement plant was about to be put in operation when the town was taken over by the Soviet Army. The Soviet authorities almost completely dismantled the equipment, but after the war it was again put in place and in 1952 the new cement factory went into production. This factory is now known by the name of 'Berkat'.

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6. "Opole Harbor also played quite an important role. As Kozie Harbor (German: Coesel) was not always in a position to take care of all ships carrying coal, Opole Harbor had quite often to take an auxiliary part in making up barge convoys.
7. "Being equipped with a very strong and well-reconstructed railway net, Opole became one of the most important railway centers within all of Silesia.

Military Importance

8. "From a military standpoint, Opole was before the war quite a strong post. Along with infantry regiments (such as the 63rd Infantry Regiment and the Seventh Infantry Regiment), a regiment of field artillery was also stationed among the four groups of military barracks in Opole. Before World War II, a strong antiaircraft unit was attached to this field artillery regiment. (This was only shortly before the war.)

Post-War Reconstruction

9. "The reconstruction of Opole had four main aspects:

- (a) Rebuilding of the town residential districts. This applied to such streets as Ozinska Street (originally Malapane Street), Mickiewiczza Street (originally Moltke Strasse) and Stalinogrodzka Street (originally Stern Strasse). These streets are now almost completely rebuilt. It is only on the main street of Opole, Stalina Street (originally Krakauerstrasse), that several non-reconstructed buildings can be noticed. It is said that reconstruction is proceeding at a slower pace here in order to turn this into a showplace street.
- (b) Reconstruction of the road system. Rebuilding of the entire railway net is nearing completion. Only two of the nine bridges leading over the the Odra River have not yet been rebuilt.
- (c) Reconstruction of the central part of town around the town hall. The reconstruction [of the town hall] had adhered to traditional lines.
- (d) Repairing of all industrial enterprises, such as the 'Odra' cement factory and the repair workshop for railway cars.

"Along with the reconstruction already mentioned, the four groups of military barracks have also been renovated.

Administrative Change

10. "Last November 1959, the post of head of the county administration was given to a new man, Mr. [redacted]. He is a native Silesian and one of the most trustworthy Communist Party leaders in this area.

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Map of Opole

11. "I have prepared a map showing the town plan of Opole, with a small inset showing Opole in relation to the surrounding area. This map is drawn to a scale of 1:12,500. [redacted] has been tested and it seems reasonably accurate. The aforementioned map is available at the CIA Map Library. The following legend applies to the map. Legend begins on page 7.

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No.	Object	Location on Plan	Remarks
(A) <u>Utilities, Administrative, Trading & Cultural Installations</u>			
1	Main railway station	E-6	Rebuilt after World War II.
2	Wschodni Dworzec	M-4	Railway station to the east, with branch-off to Opole harbor and to the Odra cement plant.
3	Zachodni Dworzec	D-6	Railway station to the west, from which station the main railway line runs towards Wrocław and Nysa (German: Neisse). A special branch-off connects the station with the Quartermaster warehouses in the suburb of Halbendorf (German: Halbdorf). <u>[Poland not in NIS Gazetteer]</u>
4	Freight-yard	M/I/K-6/7	None.
5	PKS	I-5	Stopping-point for the 1st State-run autobus line on the corner of Mickiewicza & Stalinogrodzka Street. The autobus line connects Opole with Grudzie (German: Grudon), Czarny Wąs (German: Klosterbruck), Olesno (German: Rosenberg) and Prudnik (German: Neustadt). <u>[Grudzie and Czarny Wąs are not in NIS Gazetteer for Poland.]</u> Inter-town transportation is in operation over this stopping-point.
6	Harbor <u>[sic]</u>	E/F-1/2/3	In the Żakrzów northern suburb of town. The harbor is primarily adapted to handling cargoes of cement and food. Barges up to 650 tons can be loaded there.
7	Sluice	G-7	Connected with two sluice gates. Before World War II, the sluice had the name of "Boiko" sluice.
8	Power plant	A-5	<u>[None.]</u>
9	Gas works	M-6	<u>[None.]</u>
10	Water works	M/I-4	On Oleśka Street.
11	Slaughterhouse	E-6	Entrance through a small street next to Rybnicki Street.
12	Grain silos	F-2	In the harbor area.
13	Cooling-house <u>[refrigeration facilities]</u>	L-6	Neck-on function.
14	Market-halls <u>[Stalinogrodzka]</u>	M/I-5/6	Near Stalinogrodzka Street.
15	Cock dumps	M-6	Near the freight-yard.
16	Main post office	G/H-6	Close to the main railway station.
17	County Hospital	I-4/5	With a large surgical department.
18	Municipal Hospital	G/H-5	Specializing in internal medicine.

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No.	Object	Location on Plan	Remarks
19	[REDACTED]	25X1X	
20	County National Council	F/G-5/6	Located in the former provincial administration board building.
21	District National Council	H-6	On the corner of Stalina & 1st Maja Streets.
22	Town National Council	G-5	In the Town Hall.
23	County & District UB office	G-6	Branch of the county security net. In the building where the pre-World War II area railroad management (DOKP) was located. The area railway management was transferred from Opole to Stalinogrod (Katowice).
24	Area district court	H-5/6	In the former high school building. The pre-World War II seat of the court situated very near the prison burned down during the war and has not yet been rebuilt.
25	Town prison	G-4	On Jedowna Street.
26	County & District Police (MO) HQ	G-5	On Stalina Street.
27	Social Insurance offices	Exact location cannot be given.	On Reymonta Street.
28	PZPR	I-5	County district and town Communist Party offices on Mickiewicza Street, opposite the Piotra & Pawla Church.
29	[REDACTED]	25X1X	
30	National Bank of Poland	F-6	Main town branch of the National Bank of Poland.
30a	National Bank of Poland	H-5	On Gzinska Street. Sub branch of the National Bank of Poland.
31	PKO	G-5	General Savings Bank.
32	Department store	G-5	Run by the GOS (General Consumer Cooperative), which supervises around 120 shops selling various commodities. These shops are in suburban areas as well as in town.
33	Bristol Hotel	G/H-5	On Gzinska Street. Built in 1951. Only hotel now open in town. Not more than 20 rooms. Is infamous among Opole inhabitants as a rendezvous for UB functionaries.
34	Piotra & Pawla Church	I-5	Peter & Paul Catholic Church on Mickiewicza Street.

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No.	Object	Location on Plan	Remarks
35	Jesuit church	I-4	On Stalinogradzka Street.
36	Sw. Wojciecha Church	G-5	St. Adalbert Church located on the hill overlooking Armii Czerwonej Place. Next to the hospital. Known before World War II as 'Bergelkirche'.
37	Bishopric	G-5	In the pre-World War II house for Protestant priests.
38		25X1X	
39			
40	High school	G-5	Built before World War II on the site of the ancient castle.
41	Technical Vocational School	H/I-5	On Mickiewicza Street.
42	High school	H-4	Next to the empty lot which is used from time to time as a park.
43	Vocational School for the Construction Trade	H/I-7	[None.]
44	Municipal Theatre	G-5	In the auditorium of the Form-Hotel, which was destroyed during World War II. The theatre was there before the war.
45	Odra movie-house	H-5	The former Metropol movie-house on Ozimska Street. The other two movie-houses - the Ufa and Veli - were destroyed and have not yet been rebuilt.
46	Trybuna Opolska	H-5	The editorial offices of the local Communist paper, on Ozimska Street.

(B) Industrial Enterprises




47		25X1X	
48			
49			
50	'Odra' cement factory	P/G-3/4	In the suburb of Zakrzow (German: Sakrau). Re-equipped and put into operation in 1952. This cement factory is the largest in Opole. 2500 to 3000 workers are employed there.

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No.	Object	Location on Plan	Remarks
51	Cement factory		In the southeastern outskirts of town. Approximately 1000 to 1200 employees.
25X1X		K/L-6/7	
52	Bolko cement factory	I-9	In the Nowa Wies Krolewska /Nowawies Krolewska/ southern suburb (German: Bolko). This is the smallest cement plant in Opol', with approximately 500 workers under employment.
53	Groszowice cement factory	Not on map	Located south of Opole in the small locality of Groszowice (German: Groschwitz). Around 2000 workers are employed.
54	Wagonowka /See 51./	K-6/7	Railway tracks repair shops. 800 to 1000 workers under employment.
55	Coffee-roasting plant	H/I-8	Called the Bema plant. Before World War II, the property of the Boehm family. Approximately 150 workers employed.
56	Stone reprocessing factory	H-7/8	<u>None.</u>
57	Sawmill	K/L-5	<u>None.</u>
58	Sawmill	-6	Located near the western railway station, in the suburb of Szczepanowice (Stenbenshoeh).
59	Brick factory	/ -4/5	In the suburb of Szczepanowice.
60	Municipal warehouse	H/I-7	In the factory which formerly manufactured pre-fabricated concrete materials. CPN (State-run gasoline & oil distribution enterprise) dumps are also located in this warehouse.
61	Brewery	G/H-4/5	Formerly active in actually brewing beer. Now its activities are confined to just processing the beer in bottles.
62	Industrial factory	G-4	On Polna Street.
(C)	<u>Military Installations</u>		
63		25X1X	
64			

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No.	Object	Location on Plan	Remarks
65	Military barracks	I/K-5	On Ozimska Street. Before World War II, the 63rd Infantry Regiment was stationed there. Now occupied by an infantry detachment
66	Military barracks	E-7/8	In the suburb of Szczepanowice. Before World War II, a field artillery unit was quartered there. Barracks now occupied by another infantry unit.
67	Military barracks	B/C-6	At the western outlet of Wroclawska Street. Before World War II, an antiaircraft unit was quartered there.
68	Military barracks	C/D-4/5	Before World War II, quarters for Seventh Infantry Regiment. Now an Air Force unit quartered there. The airfield is located about 15 kms west of town, hidden in the Tulowicki Las (Tillowitz Forst) near Polska Nowa Wies (German: Neudorf) (not in NES Gazeteer for Poland). In the northern part of the forest, an approximately two-kilometer square has been set aside for the airfield, which is closed off on three sides by forests. At the southern end, the tree trunks have been left standing as natural camouflage for the hangars which are located there.
			the airfield is used for the training of bombardiers as well as pilots. Around four kms southwest of the airfield, there is a large peat area where during World War II a bombing range was organized by the German military authorities. It is said that in the Air Force School in Opole special courses for parachute troops have been organized.
69	Military warehouses	A/B-3/4	Connected with the railway branch-off and with the western railway station (see No. 37). During World War II, Quartermaster supplies were stored in these warehouses. It is said that now the warehouses are still serving the same purpose.
70	Town military motor pool	I/K-5	At the end of Ozimska Street, opposite the military barracks.
71	Exercise-grounds	I/M/N-5/6	Equipped with a shooting-range.
72	Military building	I-5	Until the middle of 1953, a Soviet unit was billeted there. Now has been taken over by the Polish military authorities. A small Soviet detachment is still in town, in a villa not far from the Wagonowka. The exact location of this house cannot be given.

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No.	Object	Location on Plan	Remarks
72	[continued]		an outstanding, red brick, two-storey building.
73	[REDACTED]	25X1X	
74	[REDACTED]		IN THE PLANS OF Szczepanowice (near Szczepanowice in spelling).
(D) <u>Miscellaneous</u>			
75	Sports stadium	H-3/4	Near the eastern railway station. Equipped with a swimming pool. Stadium seats at least 10,000 people.
76	Zoological Garden	G/H-7	On Ostrowek island (German: Bolko Insel).
(E) <u>Bridges</u>			
[REDACTED]		25X1X	
80	Bridge over the Odra River	F-4	Before World War II, the Adolf Hitler Bruecke. Rebuilt in 1952.
81	Another bridge over the Odra	G-5	Destroyed. Not yet rebuilt.
82	Bridge over the Mlynowka (German: Muehlgraben)	G-5	This bridge is being used.
83	Second bridge over the Mlynowka	G-5	Wooden bridge, only for pedestrians
84	Third bridge over the Mlynowka	G-5	Damaged. Not yet rebuilt.
85	Fourth bridge over the Mlynowka	G-6	In use.
86	Railway bridge over the Mlynowka	G-6	Rebuilt.
87	Railway bridge over the Odra	F-6	Rebuilt.
88	Bridge over the Odra canal	E-3	The canal is used as a water reservoir. The bridge has been rebuilt and is located north of the old cemetery.
89	Bridge over the Odra canal	E/F-5	Is being used. On Wroclawska Street.
90	Highway viaduct and bridge	M-8	Crossing the railroad. Rebuilt in 1953.

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